

## **Amendments to the Specification:**

*Please delete the paragraph found on page 2, starting at line 24 and ending at line 26 as follows:*

~~According to the invention, this task is solved by an envelope-filling station with the features of patent claim 1. Advantageous configurations and further developments form objects of the patent claims subordinate to claim 1.~~

*Please add the following sentence to the paragraph found on page 4, starting at line 18 as follows:*

- Extending parallel to the feeding device for the enclosures or sets of enclosures and alongside the feeding device is an envelope-conveying device that is generally designated by 5 in Fig. 1. The envelope-conveying device 5 connects to an envelope-separating arrangement 6 in which from an envelope pack consisting of envelopes inserted standing on edge, a sequence of separated envelopes is created in a way known in the art. The envelope-conveying device 5 accepts this sequence of separated envelopes and transports them lying flat essentially in a horizontal plane to a group of endless, circulating driving belts 7 that are guided over track rollers and driven rollers. The envelope-conveying device 5 receives the envelopes from the envelope-separating arrangement 6 in a state in which the envelope flaps are already open. In one embodiment, envelope-separating arrangement 6 includes an envelope-flap-opening device. In the first section of the envelope-conveying device 5, the conveyed envelopes are still gripped relatively tightly between the top strands of the driving belts 7 and pressing rollers or pressing rolls prestressed against them from above, while with further progress of the envelopes in the direction of arrow P2 shown in Fig. 1, this gripping becomes looser, which can be achieved by progressively less prestress by the pressing rolls, for example.

*Please replace the following paragraph found on page 6, starting at line 8 with the following amended paragraph:*

The angled stop arrangement 15 contains a stop pin 17 that can be lowered into an ~~active~~-inactive position or raised into an ~~inactive~~-active position above the level of the intermediate envelope-conveying table 9 by means of drive ~~46~~25, and a stopping straightedge 20, which is hook-like in cross section and is oriented perpendicular to the conveying direction of the feeding device and perpendicular to the push-in direction of the push-in arrangement 16, and which is fastened to a pivot shaft 18 that is supported above the level of the intermediate envelope-conveying table 9. The pivot shaft can be pivoted between two positions by means of a rotary drive, for example, by means of a rotary magnet 19. In the first position, which is designated as the active position, the main part of the stopping straightedge, which is placed on the pivot shaft 18, is approximately vertical and assumes a position in which the precise alignment of the conveyed envelope upstream of the push-in arrangement 16 takes place in interaction with the stop pin 17, which has been switched to the active state.

*Please replace the following paragraph starting on page 6, line 8 and on page 7, line 1 with the following amendments:*

In the second pivot position of the stopping straightedge 20, the latter has been pivoted on the pivot shaft 18 somewhat in the clockwise direction relative to the representation of Fig. 1, so that the main part of the stopping straightedge, which is placed on the pivot shaft 18, runs downward at an angle from the pivot shaft, while the lower, hook-like projection of the stopping straightedge runs approximately vertically downward and realizes an intermediate stop position, which can also be seen in Fig. 3. When the stopping straightedge 20 reaches this position and the stop pin 17 remains switched to the active state by the drive ~~46~~25, then with the driving belts 11 having been put into operation again or having remained continuously in operation, a filled envelope, following the stopping straightedge 20 that has been switched back, is withdrawn by a distance F from

the push-in ~~station~~arrangement 16 in such a way that the push-in parts of the latter reliably come free of the filled envelope before the latter is conveyed away.

*Please replace the text in the paragraph found on page 7, line 12 with the following amendment:*

As soon as the envelope that has been conveyed by the intermediate envelope-conveying device and aligned by it in interaction with the angled stop arrangement is filled and has been withdrawn relative to the push-in arrangement through creation of an intermediate stop position of the angled stop arrangement, the angled stop arrangement in its entirety is switched to the inactive state, which takes place by raising the stop pin 17 by means of the drive ~~46~~25 in the embodiment according to Fig. 1, or by lowering the stop pin below the level of the intermediate envelope-conveying table 9 in the embodiment according to Fig. 3. Now, by means of a drive 22, a pressing roller 23 is lowered in the direction of the top strand of an endless, circulating driving belt 24, as a result of which the filled envelope is grasped by the envelope-advancing device containing the pressing rollers 23 and driving belts 24, and is conveyed away in a direction perpendicular to the push-in direction corresponding to arrow P4.

*Please replace the text found on page 9, at line 23 with the following amendment:*

It can be seen from the top view of Fig. 2 that in the region upstream of the push-in arrangement 16, where the envelope conveyed by the intermediate envelope-conveying device 8 is first aligned at the angled stop arrangement 15 upstream of the push-in arrangement 16, there is provided above this region a pressing arrangement 35, which can optionally be moved into an active position or lifted from this active position and the details of which are not specifically shown in the drawing. In the embodiment shown, this pressing arrangement 35 contains in cages two spherical rolling bodies that can rotate freely within these cages and that have a certain vertical play. With the interaction of one of the driving belts 11

of the intermediate envelope-conveying device, the cages, together with the spherical rolling bodies, can be lowered in the direction of an envelope delivered and aligned just upstream of the intermediate envelope-conveying device 8, in such a way that the spherical rolling bodies together with one of the driving belts 11 reliably convey the envelope into the angular space between the stop parts of the angled stop arrangement and assist the alignment. After that, the pressing arrangement is lifted off during the filling of the envelope and is thus moved into an inactive position in order, when the stopping straightedge 20 has pivoted back by the distance F in order to withdraw the filled envelope, then to be lowered back onto the filled envelope in such a way that, with the interaction of a driving belt 11 of the intermediate envelope-conveying device 8 and the pressing arrangement 35, the envelope is reliably moved back by the distance F. Once that has taken place, the stop pin 17 of the angled stop arrangement 15 is switched by means of the drive ~~46-25~~ to the inactive state (i.e., it is raised or lowered below the level of the intermediate envelope-conveying table 9) and the advancing device is set into action by lowering the roller 23 by means of the drive 22, and the filled envelope is conveyed away. The person skilled in the art will recognize that a suitably controlled drive, a solenoid, for example, is assigned to the pressing arrangement 35, but that it has been left out of the drawing for the sake of simplicity.